

What is claimed is:

1. A dispenser for deploying an elongated, flexible article generally along a deployment axis, said dispenser comprising:

a receptacle means for storing the article in a multiple-turn, multiple-layer configuration about the deployment axis in a storage volume;

a connector means having a terminal forward face and a lateral peripheral surface extending away from the receptacle along the deployment axis;

a first elastomeric cushioning means mounted on the lateral peripheral surface of the connector means; and

an annular elastomeric cushioning means mounted on a forward face of the first elastomeric cushioning means, a central aperture of the annular elastomeric cushioning means surrounding the terminal forward face of the connector means.

2. The dispenser of claim 1 wherein the annular elastomeric cushioning means is a shock mount bumper.

3. The dispenser of claim 2 wherein the connector means is cylindrical.

4. The dispenser of claim 3 wherein there is a locking ring on the terminal forward face of the connector means and the central aperture in the shock mount bumper exposes said locking ring.

5. The dispenser of claim 1 wherein there is a locking mechanism for securing the connector means to a torpedo, the annular elastomeric cushioning means preventing disengagement of the locking mechanism.

6. The dispenser of claim 4 wherein there is a locking mechanism on the forward face of the first elastomeric cushioning means, the shock mount bumper covering the locking mechanism to prevent disengagement of the locking mechanism from the locking ring.

7. An assembly comprising:

a torpedo having a bell mouth adapter with a peripheral shroud at an aft end of the torpedo;

a receptacle for storing an elongated article in a multiple-turn, multiple-layer configuration about the deployment axis in a storage volume;

a generally cylindrical connector extending from the receptacle and having a terminal front face and a lateral peripheral surface, there being a ball-locking ring assembly on said terminal front face and said ball-locking ring assembly is engaged with the bell mouth connector of the torpedo;

a first elastomeric cushioning means mounted on the lateral peripheral surface of the connector; and

a second elastomeric cushioning means mounted on a front face of the first elastomeric cushioning means in outer axial relation to the ball-locking ring assembly and in opposed relation to the shroud on the torpedo.

8. The assembly of claim 7 wherein the second elastomeric cushioning means is a shock mount bumper.